THE
Theatrical Observer;
AND
Daily Bills of the Play.

" Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—*Othello.*

No. 6223. *THURSDAY, Dec.* 2, 1841. *Price* 1*d.*

" The Play's the thing."—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

THE successful Comedy of *Court and City* commenced the performances at this Theatre last night, and was as highly relished as on the first night of its representation. We were glad to see that Miss Cooper had resumed her part, which she performs with so much propriety and good sense. The acting of this amusing and elegantly appointed Comedy is, as we have said, beyond all praise, and the concluding dance by all the characters again elicited loud demonstrations of satisfaction, its effect being heightened by the splendid and appropriate dresses of the *dramatis personæ.* After the Comedy, a new Divertissement, in one short act, produced under the experienced direction of Mr. Oscar Byrne, was brought out with unqualified success. It is essentially a *British* Ballet in every respect, and we look upon it as having established the capability of our native artists exclusively to produce and sustain a clever pantomimic performance without the aid of a single foreigner. The scene is laid in Scotland and affords a pleasing introduction of Scottish melodies selected with considerable tact. A Scotch lassie (Miss Ballin) is anxiously expecting the return of her sailor lover, (Mr. Gilbert) who agrees among his messmates to unship the wooden leg of a comrade and otherwise disfigure himself to test the sincerity of his sweetheart's affections, and to stake all his prize money upon the result. She looks in vain for the object of her love, scornfully rejecting the offer of the hand and proferred gold of one of his comrades, and finally rushes into the arms of her supposed maimed and disabled lover, who immediately doffs his disguise, and dances with "such skill and dexterity" as would perfectly convince the most sceptical of his soundness of wind and limb. A very pretty *pas de deux* between Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert, (Miss Ballin) elicited much approbation. Gilbert's dancing though always characterized by force, vigour, and manliness, is deficient in that finished grace which is the true secret of perfection in this difficult act. As a pantomimist he is inferior to Mr. G. Ridgway, whose expressive action, which was so much admired in the last new Ballet, was not called forth last night. Mr. T. Ridgway acted a grotesque Scotch piper with remarkable comic effect. Miss Ballin danced and acted with grace and expression, and Master and Miss Marshall gave a pleasing *pas de deux* with great spirit. The whole Ballet was got up with great taste, and will form an agreeable feature in the evening's performance. *The Omnibus* concluded.

HAY-MARKET THEATRE.

Riches, The Quadroon Slave, Love Extempore, and *Bob Short,* were performed here last night to a good house. *Nina Sforza* will be played for the last time this evening.

QUEEN'S—*The London Mechanic* at this Theatre is on a par with the usual productions of the management, which is obliged to present its upholders with Dramas, Farces, &c. adapted to the palates of the inhabitants of Tottenham Court Road and its vicinity. Give the gentlemen who

E. & J. THOMAS, Printers, Russell Court, Brydges-st., Covent Garden.

pay for entrée at a place of public amusement, at the rate of sixpence per head, common sense, conveyed in rational language and they will yawn, or what is more unpleasant hiss and hoot—but present them with a Drama wildly extravagant in incident and words, and then see how the gallery is ready to come down with applause—the more especially if the actors rant and roar. We visited the Queen's Theatre the other evening, and arrived just in time to hear Mr. Moss in the character of a "London Mechanic" utter the following passage from the new Drama—

"Oh the drink, the horrid drink,"

as he falls into a furnace. The reader will excuse our detailing the other incidents. We can only regret that Mr. James whose talents as a scene-painter are unrivalled, is *compelled* to give his audiences such trash, and that he is obliged to illustrate Mr. Taylor's nonsense. A Farce by Mr. Somerset, entitled £10,000 *a Year*, has been produced, and we understand that *Tom and Jerry* is to be revived with every care and attention. Mr. J. Parry whose claims for patronage are numerous will take his benefit on Wednesday next.

Fashionable Lounges.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer,

DEAR MR. EDITOR.—Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, but will you excuse me—I have to mention that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends and the fashionable world at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town.—

Monday, stroll to MADAME TUSSAUD'S elegant Exhibition, Golden Corinthian Saloon, Baker Street, Portman Square.—Just added to her unrivalled collection the celebrated Coronation Robes of his late Majesty George IVth., which cost the enormous sum of 18,000*l* (embroidered by the Messrs. Holbecks,) which far surpass in magnificence anything ever worn by a British Monarch—A Room, &c. has been fitted up to correspond in splendor. Brave Napier is also to be seen here.

Tuesday, pop into the Somerset Gallery, 151, Strand, next door to Somerset House, to see a most wonderful Exhibition, *The Industrious Fleas.* They dance, ride, drive a four-in-hand, fight, and in fact do everything in first rate style, exciting the admiration of all present. By the bye, this is Signor Bertolotto's Exhibition, that has been exhibited for the last eight years.

You may talk of eye snuff, but after having the head-ache for a year, popped into PERRING'S, 85, Strand. got one of his superb Beavers, so light lost the head-ache in a minute—Mrs.P. instantly purchased a lot of his fashioaableBeaverBonnets elegant and quite the *ton*—must patronize PERRING.

Thursday, took a peep at the THAMES TUNNEL, which is now open every day from nine o'clock in the morning until dark, (entrance on the Surrey side of the river, close to Rotherhithe Church. The Tunnel is brilliantly lighted with gas. The foot passengers Shaft at Wapping, 55 feet in diameter, is now in progress.

In my way from the Theatre, drop into the *Harmonic Meeting*, held at EVANS'S Grand Hotel, King Street, Covent Garden, quite delighted with the excellence of the singing—commences every evening at ten o'clock. When Mrs. P. is out of town, stay a week, and only pay a guinea for bed and breakfast. I'm always to be found on Saturday, at half-past five, at the Convivial Dinner held here.

Call upon Messrs. JACKSON BLOCKLEY and Co., 96, New Bond Street, near Oxford-street, for the new music by J. Blockley, author of 'Love not,' &c.—just published—'Beautiful Spring,' (ballad,) 'Sleep Baby sleep,' 'Last song of Sappho,' 'Love seeking a Lodging,' and purchase likewise the favorite duets of 'List to the Convent Bells,' 'The Moorish Evening Drum,' 'Thoughts of Home,' new edition of 'My Childhood's Home,' 'The Flower Girl's song,' 'The Wind and the Beam.

Afterwards called at EMMETT'S, 27, Holborn Hill, to view his Novel Pen Maker, by which any one can make a superior Pen in less than one minute! also his improved Needle Threader, to enable Ladies, whose sight is impaired to thread their needles with the greatest ease—a most ingenious contrivance.

"All good *spirits* come to my *Beck*," at his Dr. Johnson's Tavern, Bolt Court, Fleet Street,—where you meet excellent company—capital fare at *fair* prices—delightful singing—(commences every evening at a quarter to nine,) cigars, billiards, good beds, and an enticing bill of fare.

Saturday, I examine MISS LINWOOD'S curious Needle Work, Leicester Square—lately added other beautiful specimens of her art.—But I intrude—beg pardon—Your's, &c.—PAUL PRY.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden

This Evening, BELLINI's Opera of

N O R M A.

The Overture Composed by C. RAPER, Esq.

CONDUCTOR, ... MR. BENEDICT

The Chorusses under the Direction of Mr. J. H. TULLY,
The SCENERY by the Messrs. GRIEVE.
The Decorations and Appointments by Mr. W. BRADWELL.
The Dresses by Mesdames GLOVER and RAYNER.

Pollio, (a Roman Pro-Consul,) Mr W. HARRISON,
Flavius, (a Centurion,) Mr CLEMENT WHITE,
Oroveso, (the Arch Druid,) Mr LEFFLER,
Norma..(a Druidess)..Miss ADELAIDE KEMBLE,
(Her 14th Appearance upon the English Stage.)
Adalgisa, ...Miss RAINFORTH
Clotilda, Miss GRANT,
Children, Miss A. PAYNE and Master FOSTER.
Gaulish Chiefs, Druids, Bards, Druidesses, &c.

After which, the Farce of

FREE & EASY.

Sir John Freeman, Mr C. MATHEWS,
Mr Charles Courtly ..... Mr BARTLEY,
Michael, Mr HARLEY,
Richard ....Mr W. H. PAYNE,
Ralph, Mr KERRIDGE,
Peter .... Miss DOWTON,
Rose, Miss R. ISAACS,
Mrs Courtly ..... Miss COOPER,
Eugenia, Miss MURRAY,
Gertrude.....Mrs ORGER,

To conclude with, (2nd Time) a Ballet Divertissement, entitled

The Wooden Leg.

The BALLET produced by Mr. OSCAR BYRNE.
The MUSIC selected by Mr. F. VENUA.

THE CHARACTERS BY

Mr GILBERT and Miss BALLIN,
Master MARSHALL and Miss MARSHALL,
Mr J. RIDGWAY, Mr T. RIDGWAY,
Miss JACKSON,
Messrs. Ireland, Gardner, &c. Mesdames Payne, Reeve, &c. &c.

To-morrow, Court and City, Free and Easy, and The Wooden Leg.

Theatre Royal, English Opera.

THIS EVENING,

PROMENADE CONCERTS.

Conductor, M. MUSARD

Leader, M. TOLBECQUE.

Solo Performers—Messrs. M. Deloffre, Patey, Pilet, Howell, Collinet, Barrett, Baumann, Lazarus, Jarrett, Laurent, Jun., Muller, &c.

PROGRAMME

PART I

Overture .. Sarah .. Grisar

Waltz .. Elektrische Funken (Electrical Sparks) .. Strauss.

Andante de la Symphonie en la, ... Beethoven

Quadrille .... Les Soirees du Ranelagh .. Musard

Overture .... Semiramide .... . Rossini

Solo, Flute, Mr. Carte.

Quadrille .... Le Nain du Roi .. Musard

PART II

Grand Fantasia from the Opera of "Robert le Diable" .... Meyerbeer

Solo, Bassoon, Mr. BAUMANN,
Solo, Oboe, Mr. BARRET,
Solo, Clarionet, Mr. LAZARUS,
Solo, Harp, Mr CHIPP.

Quadrille .. Militaire .. Musard

Overture .. Le Cheval de Bronze .. Auber

Quadrille, ... L'Angleterre .... Musard

Waltz .. Songs of the Danube .. Strauss

Galop .. Le Sabbat .. Musard

Admission, One Shilling,

Doors Open at Half-past Seven, the Concert commences at Eight and terminates at Eleven.

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